

City of Reidsville
City Council Meeting
Monday June 8, 2020

Draft Copy- Not approved by Council until July 13, 2020

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Reidsville City Council was held on Monday, June 8th, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Members of Council present:

Verdie Williams

Carolyn Crume- Blackshear

Bruce Conner

Donald Prestage

Jim Waters

City Attorney DuAnn Cowart-Davis was present.

The meeting was brought to order by Mayor Sydney Clifton at 5:09 pm. The prayer was given by Council Member Bruce Conner, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

There were no public comments at this time.

Each Department Supervisor turned in their monthly reports to the Clerk. At this time, Mayor Clifton shared the Fire, Water-Sewer and Street and Lane, Police Departments monthly reports. Mayor Clifton stated that according to Recreation Department Director Darien Renfro that the Department of Corrections Detail would be installing the covers over the bleachers as soon as back to work. There were no comments or discussion at this time.

The Mayor advised the meeting minutes from last month's meeting were provided to the Council for review. If there are no questions/corrections a motion is needed to accept as written. A motion was made to accept the minutes as written.

Motion made by: Jim Waters

2nd by: Carolyn Crume-Blackshear

Vote: Approved - Unanimous

At this time the Mayor advised that the Tattall County Board of Education would like to discuss with the Council the new elementary/middle school currently in the planning/early construction phase. School Superintendent Dr. Gina Williams introduced Mr. Tony Wright with TQ Constructors and Mr. Don Carter of Carter Engineering. Mr. Carter shared with the Council the first page plans. McLendon Enterprises, Mr. Carter stated, would be the site contractor. Mr. Carter explained that they had planned on having an onsite septic system, but, that with the soft

sand it would require monitoring and testing that they did not have the support staff to accommodate. Dr. Williams explained that the system would need to accommodate between 850 to 1050 students and faculty. Mr. Carter expressed that he would work with Mr. Carl Hofstadter, Engineer for the City of Reidsville to determine what is in the best interest of the Tattnall County Board of Education and the City of Reidsville the handling of waste from the new school.

Dr. Gina Williams then let the Council know that Mr. Tony Wright of TQ Constructors would be leaving the meeting to look at the ditch of concern to Mr. Edgar Johnson and the Board of Education. Dr. Williams advised that they are in the process of determining the best route permanent solution for the ditch and Mr. Edgar Johnson's property concerns.

Under Old Business, the dilapidated buildings were the next item on the agenda. Attorney DuAnn Cowart-Davis advised that Mr. Fields of Highway 56 had demolished the property of concern. Mr. Jimmy Burns was continuing to work on his property. The Bell property clean up was nearly completed by the new property owners. Mr. Tommy Butler advised Council Members Carolyn Crume-Blackshear and Verdie Williams that he was in the process of cleaning up his properties. Attorney Davis advised that she will keep the Council updated on the progress of each.

The next item on the Agenda was the HVAC system for the Courtroom. The Mayor advised that three quotes were submitted; with one being withdrawn. Dyess Heating and Air and Terrell's Heating and Air quoted the system change-out with Terrell's being low bid. Motion was made to accept bid from Terrell's Heating and Air:

Motion made by: Bruce Conner
2nd by: Verdie Williams
Vote: Approved - Unanimous

With no further Old Business to discuss at this time the Mayor addressed New Business with the Council. The first item under New Business was the Reidsville Airport CARES Act Resolution. After review by the Council motion was made to accept the resolution as written:

Motion made by: Jim Waters
2nd by: Carolyn Crume - Blackshear
Vote: Approved – Unanimous

Additionally, the Airport requested appointment for deceased Senator Jack Hill's place on the Airport Authority Board. David Jarriel, Fred Cowart and Zuber Malek were for consideration for the Board with Mr. Jarriel being appointed by Mayor Clifton with term to end January 2024.

The next item on the Agenda was reopening City Hall with a limit of two customers at a time allowed in the lobby area effective immediately:

Motion made by: Jim Waters
2nd by: Donald Prestage

Vote: Approved - Unanimous

The renewal Agreement between Pineland and the City was approved for renewal effective July 1, 2020.

Motion made by: Jim Waters

2nd by: Verdie Williams

Vote: Approved – Unanimous

At this time the Council discussed the 2021 Budget and after consideration the Council voted to approve the Budget as presented:

Motion made by: Jim Waters

2nd by: Bruce Conner

Vote: Approved- Unanimous

Council Member Bruce Conner asked the Council to consider increasing employee Christmas Bonus this year. The Council decided to discuss closer to time.

Mayor Clifton asked the Council to consider changing from paying employees weekly to every two weeks. Mayor Clifton stated that it would be in the best interest of the City to wait for the new calendar year of January 2021 to make the pay period change.

Mayor Clifton then asked each Council Member if there were any items in need of discussion. Council Member Bruce Conner stated that he would like to see the Council conduct a workshop/learning session. Council Member Donald Prestage stated that he would like to bring each department in to discuss what needs improving. Council Member Prestage also asked the Council to entertain the possibility of putting a new roof on the City Shop. Also, he asked that the Council seek an estimator to assess the progress made on the Police Department evidence room to date and work on getting the project completed. Mayor Clifton advised that he had spoken with a contractor out of Glenville to look at the project. Council Member Prestage asked the Council to seek Sealed Bids for this project and others moving forward. Council Member Jim Waters advised that he had no additional items for discussion.

Council Member Verdie Williams addressed the Council with a printed presentation with regards to Surrency Park. Council Member Williams challenged the Council to help find ways to update the Park and make it a safe and enjoyable locale for the citizens of Reidsville. The Council discussed several different options to address the Park and need for improvement to include speaking with the Recreation Department Board to allow for funding of the Park and seeking grant money for the project.

Council Member Carolyn Crume-Blackshear stated that the Library looks overgrown and wooded. Mayor Clifton stated that the County needed to be contacted and that we would work with them to get it cleaned up, as well as, the old IGA parking lot. Mr. Edgar Johnson asked if

the inmates were available for clean-up. Mayor Clifton advised that the inmates were not being permitted out due to COVID-19.

Mayor Clifton advised that City of Reidsville Municipal Court was postponed until July 21, 2020. Also, Mayor Clifton advised City Hall will close at noon on June 30, 2020 to close the fiscal year. Additionally, the Mayor invited all citizens to attend the peaceful protest scheduled for June 19, 2020.

Council Member Carolyn Crume-Blackshear advised that the Tattnall Municipal Meeting would tentatively take place in October.

With no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 6:16pm.

Motion made by:	Jim Waters
2 nd by:	Bruce Conner
Vote:	Approved - Unanimous